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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 459  
By Maddox

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend NBA star, Ronald "Popeye" Jones, formerly of Dresden, on being chosen as Murray State University's Player of the Century.

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor those exemplary persons who, through their abiding commitment to excellence, are a source of pride for the citizens of this state; and

WHEREAS, one such person is Dresden native, Ronald "Popeye" Jones, who was recently named as the Murray State University Player of the Century; and

WHEREAS, Popeye is an alumnus of Dresden High School and Murray State University and is currently a member of the NBA basketball team, the Denver Nuggets; and

WHEREAS, this former TSSAA Mr. Basketball went from a successful high school career to enroll and succeed academically and athletically at Murray State University; and

WHEREAS, Popeye enjoyed great success at Murray State where he broke school records, amassing 1,374 rebounds during his collegiate career; and

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WHEREAS, his deft shooting ability placed him second in Racer scoring history, with 2,057 points, and ranked third in school history in both steals, with 159, and in blocked shots, with 87; and

WHEREAS, the awesome 6-foot-8, 250-pounder led the nation in rebounding as a college senior, averaging an excellent 14.4 rebounds per game during the 1991-92 season; and

WHEREAS, during his senior season for the Racers, Popeye averaged 21.1 points per game and was a three-time All-Ohio Valley Conference selection; and

WHEREAS, currently a member of the National Basketball Association Denver Nuggets, Popeye's exceptional statistics, as a Murray State Racer, make him very deserving of this unique honor; and

WHEREAS, during his stellar NBA career that has included stops in Denver, Toronto, and Boston, Popeye has averaged 8.4 points and 8.9 rebounds per game. He scored a career-high 25 points against Boston on December 15, 1994 as a Dallas Maverick; and

WHEREAS, Popeye is grateful for the love and support he receives from his devoted wife, Amy, and is the loving father of three children, Justin, Seth, and Caleb; and

WHEREAS, the members of this body find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most beloved sons on his recent accolade and honor; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we congratulate Ronald "Popeye" Jones on his selection as the Murray State University Player of the Century, extending to him our best wishes for every future success in his distinguished career.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

